

354-430

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St Augustine

354-430

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The date of Christ's birth, even  
a supposed date was unknown  
to AUGUSTINE (354-430) and  
was NOT then officially observed

June 29, 354

III Kal. Jul

= Third day before Kalends of July

July 1 = 1

June 30 = 2

June 29 = 3

∴ June 29,

354-430

St. Augustine. He wrote commentaries.  
He wrote the City of God :

He listened to the sermons of  
St. Ambrose

Chronographer of 354  
the designation given by  
T. MOMMSEN to the unknown  
compiler of a calendarlike reference  
work prepared for general use  
in Rome. The original compiler  
stopped at the year 354, but  
subsequent additions brought it  
down to the year 496

Although the document is preserved only in fragments, scholars have succeeded in reconstructing almost completely this important source for the history of the Ancient Church.

354 A 430

St Augustine, bishop of Hippo  
he was a man who in his youth had  
fallen into heresy and immorality,  
but was converted through the  
prayers of his holy mother MONICA  
and the preaching of St. Ambrose.  
He gave up his brilliant career  
of lawyer & became one of the greatest  
lights of sacred learning the Church  
ever had. He refuted the heresies

of the DONATISTS & the PELAGIANS



354 AD.

The most important early  
Church Calendar was compiled  
by FURIUS DIONISIUS PHLOCALUS

354-430

Augustine

The date of Christ's birth, even a supposed date, was unknown to Augustine (354-430) and was not then officially observed.

354

The earliest mention of 25 Dec  
to celebrate Christmas part of  
which reflects Roman practice  
of 336

Celebration of Christ's Birthdays  
until the fourth century.

354AD

The manuscript CALENDAR of  
PHILOCALUS, written in 354AD  
and reflecting conditions of the 3rd  
century records 175 days of games  
out of 200 public holidays, as against  
93 and 159 for the early empire

Some Western churches including those in Rome, commemorated the birth of Christ on Dec. 25; this was then erroneously calculated as the winter solstice, on which the days begin to lengthen; it was already the central festival of Mithraism, the *natalis invicti solis*. The eastern churches clung for a time to Jan. 6

and charged their Western brethren  
with sun worship and idolatry, but  
by the end of the 4th Century

December 25 had been adopted  
also in the East.

negony of Tours has preserved for us another  
used in the late 5th century at Tours. Part  
of a late 5th or early 6th-century calendar is  
preserved in an inscription found in 1909  
at Camma near Seville. More recent  
still has been the discovery of a fragment  
of a 6th-century calendar from OXYRHYNCHUS,  
in Egypt.

known as "martyrologies," though it is obviously difficult to distinguish them adequately from the simpler "Calendars." The most important of these later records are the Syriac Martyrology of AD 411, which lists also some saints of the West; the 4th and 5th-century Calendar of Carthage, which includes a number of saints from Italy, Sicily, and Spain; and the Martyrologium Hieronymianum, compiled in Southern Gaul between 592 and 600. A fragment of a Gothic calendar from the beginning of the 5th century is preserved in the Ambrosian Library in Milan. St



Nov. 13, 354AD

Sst. Augustine

Aurelius Augustinus was born  
at Tagaste in Numidia

Aug 28, 430 He died

Nov. 13, 354 born

died Aug. 28, 430

Saint Augustine was born at TAGASTE (modern SOUK-AHRAS, ALGERIA). He was named AURELIUS AUGUSTINUS. His father, PATRICIUS, was pagan. His mother, MONICA, was a pious Christian.

St Ambrose influenced him profoundly. He was baptized by St Ambrose at Easter in 387.

Became a priest in 395

In 395 was made Bishop of HIPPO  
(modern ANASSA, Algeria)

Vandals were besieging Hippo  
when he died Aug. 28, 430 A.D.

354

The oldest extant calendar is one found in the Roman CHRONOGRAPH OF 354. This

"PHILOCALIAN CALENDAR" is divided into two parts ① Dates of burial of 12 popes of the 3d & 4th centuries and a ② DEPOSITIO MARTYRUM. It included 3 martyrs of Carthage ss. cyprian, Perpetua and Felicitas, the feast of St. Peter's Chair on Feb. 22, commemoration of St. Peter in "CATACUMBAE" and of St. Paul on the OSTIAN WAY.

for June 29, and the nativity of Christ on  
Dec. 25.

354

Execution of Sulla.  
Julian at Athens

3rd cen.

The traditional western date for Christmas, December 25 goes back only to the Third Century. At that time, the Nativity and Epiphany (commemorating the baptism of Jesus) both fell on January 6. The Bishop of Jerusalem wrote to the Pope to point out the absurdity of the faithful having celebrated the birth at Bethlehem, hurrying off

just in time to celebrate the Nativity on the  
other side of Jerusalem. The Pope, consulting  
the works of Josephus, fixed Christmas  
at Dec. 25.



For the 1st time in documents  
December 25 is referred to in documents  
as Christmas Day